

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 STATE 187448 TOSEC 080229  
ORIGIN NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 R

66011

DRAFTED BY S/S-O: RPERITO:WLT

APPROVED BY S/S-O: RPERITO

-----054400 091750Z /44

O 091732Z AUG 77 ZFF4

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USDEL SECRETARY IMMEDIATE

WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 187448 TOSEC 080229

NODIS

WHITE HOUSE FOR DR. BRZEZINSKI ONLY

FOL RPT ALEXANDRIA 0832 SENT ACTION SECSTATE INFO CAIRO  
DTD 09 AUG 77

QUOTE: S E C R E T ALEXANDRIA 0832

NODIS

DEPT PASS SECRETARY FROM AMBASSADOR IN ALEXANDRIA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS)

SUBJECT: GOE HANDLING OF WORKING GROUP OF FOREIGN MINISTERS IDEA

1. I GATHER SADAT AND COMPANY HAVE HAD SOME FLAK  
FROM SAUDIS, SYRIANS AND JORDANIANS ABOUT WHAT OTHER  
ARABS UNDERSTAND TO BE EGYPTIAN "PROPOSAL" ON CONVENING  
WORKING GROUP OF FONMINS IN NEW YORK. LATEST ARRIVAL  
HERE TO INQUIRE IS SAUDI ROYAL ADVISOR KAMAL ADHAM,  
WHO ALLEGEDLY EXPRESSED SOME ANNOYANCE THAT EGYPTIANS  
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SHOULD HAVE FLOATED SUCH AN IDEA WITHOUT ADVANCE  
CONSULTATION. JORDANIANS AND SYRIANS HAVE APPARENTLY  
ALSO SIGNALLED THEIR DISPLEASURE.

2. GOE REACTION HAS BEEN GENERALLY CONSTRUCTIVE.  
BOTH SADAT AND FAHMY HAVE PRIVATELY DENIED PARENTAGE  
OF THE IDEA, BUT HAVE PUBLICLY (AS WELL AS PRIVATELY)

CONTINUED TAKE POSITIVE LINE TOWARD IT. EGYPTIAN PRESS, ALTHOUGH BRIEFED ON BACKGROUND OF THE IDEA, HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED REFER TO IT AS AN EGYPTIAN "PROPOSAL" AND HAS BEEN DOING SO. IN BACKGROUND BRIEFINGS TO PRESS AND DIPLOMATS, HAS MADE TWO POINTS CLEAR: (A) SADAT HAS NOT RPT NOT AUTHORIZED HIM TO MEET WITH ISRAELI FONMIN DAYAN IN NEW YORK AND (B) WORKING GROUP NOT RPT NOT INTENDED BE A SUBSTITUTE FOR GENEVA, BUT RATHER A PREPARATORY STEP TOWARD IT. BY STRESSING LATTER THEME, GOE HAS CONSCIOUSLY SOUGHT TO CAST CONCEPT AS A CONSTRUCTIVE NEXT STEP ON THE ROAD TO PEACE.

3. ADDITIONALLY, IT IS WORTH NOTING THAT DESPITE GENERAL IMPRESSION IN INFORMED EGYPTIAN POLITICAL CIRCLES THAT YOUR VISIT HAS NOT BROUGHT ANYTHING NEW AND THE RESULTANT PESSIMISM RE FUTURE OF PEACE EFFORT, FAHMY AND HIS AIDES HAVE IN TALKS WITH EGYPTIAN, AMERICAN AND OTHER NEWSMAN GONE OUT OF THEIR WAY TO BE UPBEAT ABOUT YOUR VISIT AND ABOUT USG DETERMINATION CONTINUE WORK WITH EGYPT IN PURSUING ME PEACE EFFORT DESPITE ALL OBSTACLES. CAHSE UNQUOTE CHRISTOPHER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
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**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** n/a  
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**Subject:** GOE HANDLING OF WORKING GROUP OF FOREIGN MINISTERS IDEA  
**TAGS:** OVIP, PDEV, XF, JO, SY, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (SADAT, ANWAR)  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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